

**Subject:** [CCSS] Message #55: PARCC releases PLDs

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**From:** ccss@lists.state.ar.us (sent by ccss-bounces@lists.state.ar.us <ccss-bounces@lists.state.ar.us>)

**To:** ccss@lists.state.ar.us

Dear Arkansas educator:

PARCC Grade- and Subject-Specific Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs),  
Adopted June 2013

The grade- and subject-specific PLDs are intended to serve several purposes, including the following:

- Communicate expectations to educators about what types of performances will be necessary at the high school-level for students to demonstrate that they are college- and career-ready (CCR) or making adequate progress to become CCR;
- Communicate expectations to educators about what types of performance will be necessary in grades 3-8 for students to demonstrate that they are academically prepared to engage successfully in further studies in each content area;
- Provide information to local educators for use in developing curricular and instructional materials;
- Serve as the basis for PARCC standard setting in summer 2015; and
- Inform item and rubric development for the PARCC assessments.

Although the grade- and subject-specific PLDs were formally adopted in June 2013, they will undergo a number of iterations after that point, as data on student performance is collected during PARCC item development research in 2013, field testing in spring 2014, and the first operational year of administration in school year 2014-15. This iterative process will ensure that the performance level scores students receive on PARCC assessments are a valid reflection of what they know and can do and, at the high school level in particular, whether students have attained the knowledge and skills necessary to earn a College- and Career-Ready Determination.

Links to the ELA/Literacy and Mathematics PLDs are located at <http://www.parcconline.org/plds>.

Please share this information with others that might be interested! Thank you for serving the students of Arkansas!

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